

done. Every actor in the region knows this, yet some try to convince the world otherwise for their own selfish motives, whether it is for land, for re-occupation or to send signals to other countries.

Believe it or not, certain U.S. media outlets play right into these motives by fueling these misperceptions of which others purposely strive to further.

Example. Today, at 3 o'clock, Shepard Smith on that "fair and balanced" outlet called Fox News stated, referring to the country of Lebanon, "that country known to fund Hezbollah," and again at 3:13 p.m. today, he further stated, "Lebanon continues to fire Katyusha rockets into Israel." It is time that this unfair, unbalanced, untrue and outright garbage be called to the carpet.

It is also time for all actors in the region to be called to the carpet, to step back and realize how disastrous their current paths are to their people and to the world. Hezbollah must stop tempting fate, stop shelling across the border, must release the bodies of Israeli soldiers and/or unarm those still alive and safe, as their leader claims.

Israel must stop their unmeasured response, realize they are creating more militants than they are destroying and will never destroy every one of them, and take their grievances directly to the countries involved.

It is long past time for cooler heads to prevail if peace is to ever have a chance in the Middle East.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. McHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

WHY IRAQ WAS A MISTAKE

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to claim Mr. McHENRY's time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today at 12 o'clock in the Liberty Caucus, which is a group of about 9 or 10 of us who meet in Mr. RON PAUL's office, we had retired Lieutenant General Greg Newbold, who spoke to us; and I have met with General Newbold in my office a couple of times. I am very impressed with this gentleman and his integrity and his honesty, and I want to read just a couple of paragraphs from a Time magazine article. It is entitled, "Why Iraq Was a Mistake, A military insider sounds off against the war and the 'zealots' who pushed it."

This article is not written by a reporter for Time magazine. This article was written by Lieutenant General

Greg Newbold, Retired, and I just want to read a couple of paragraphs because I think he makes such a great point. Again, this article is April 9, 2006. I met with him in my office in May of this year.

This is paragraph one of two I want to read for the RECORD.

"From 2000 until October 2002, I was a Marine Corps lieutenant general and director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After 9/11, I was a witness and therefore a party to the action that led us to the invasion of Iraq, an unnecessary war. Inside the military family, I made no secret of my view that the zealots' rationale for war made no sense. And I think I was outspoken enough to make those senior to me uncomfortable. But I now regret that I did not more openly challenge those who were determined to invade a country whose actions were peripheral to the real threat, al Qaeda. I retired from the military 4 months before the invasion, in part because of my opposition to those who had used 9/11's tragedy to hijack our security policy. Until now, I have resisted speaking out in public. I've been silent long enough."

Mr. Speaker, I mention that, before I read the last paragraph, I had the pleasure, as I said earlier, to meet with General Newbold in May of this year. I had the pleasure of hearing him speak today, and he is a man of great integrity, like the majority of all of those in our military. He was on the inside before we went to war in Iraq. He heard the planning, was part of the planning, and as he said to us today, he said, You know, when we first had our meeting after September 11, we were told to develop a strategy for Afghanistan; and then the next time we have our meeting, we are asked, Where is the plan for Iraq?

This is, I think, such an important part that he writes:

"Members of Congress, from both parties, defaulted in fulfilling their constitutional responsibility for oversight. Many in the media saw the warning signs and heard cautionary tales before the invasion from wise observers like former Central Command Chiefs Joe Hoar and Tony Zinni, but gave insufficient weight to their views. These are the same news organizations that now downplay both the heroic and the constructive in Iraq."

Mr. Speaker, I mention this because I think we in Congress, to meet our constitutional duties, do have a responsibility for oversight. I would think and hope that my party, as well as the other party, would want to know how did we get into Iraq, was the intelligence verified time after time, time after time before we committed our troops to Iraq. I think that we should know in fairness to democracy. A democracy will not stand without truth being told.

So I hope that my side, as well as the other side, would come together and let us hold hearings. I have actually asked the chairman of Armed Services to

bring in General Newbold, General Zinni and General Baptiste and bring them in to the Armed Services Committee for hearings, even if it was a classified or a closed hearing, because we in Congress, in both parties, should be asking these questions.

I will close by saying that, again, it has been a pleasure that I would have the privilege to hear General Newbold today at lunchtime. He reiterated things he had said to me back in May to about 10 of my colleagues, and I do hope that we need not to make the same mistake in future wars.

We need to make sure that the Congress is informed and informed with credible evidence from intelligence that has been verified time after time before we are asked to give the authority to the President, whether it be a Republican or a Democrat, to commit our troops to Iraq.

So, Mr. Speaker, with that, I will close as I have many times on the floor of the House. I will ask the good Lord in heaven to please bless our men and women in uniform, to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform; and I will ask God to continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH) is recognized for 5 minutes.